

**Forward Edge
International**

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**Local Organization Awarded
Additional Grant to Continue
Rebuilding Homes in Gulf Coast**

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Vancouver, WA based Forward Edge International received a \$390,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust to deploy field coordinators for their long-term Gulf Coast disaster recovery initiative. The new field coordinators will direct the 2,500 volunteers and materials Forward Edge International will be sending to rebuild homes for the poor and elderly, as well as churches damaged by last year's hurricanes over the next 2 years. Forward Edge International has already sent 565 volunteers to the Gulf Coast, and repaired 120 homes and 7 church buildings.

Last October Forward Edge was the recipient of a million dollar matching grant from anonymous donors to assist in their long-term recovery efforts in the region.

"Lillie's home had been flooded nearly to the ceiling in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina," said Joseph Anfuso, President of Forward Edge International. The 86 year old widow had no insurance or any way to repair her home that had been heavily damaged and was uninhabitable. "After we rebuilt her home the dear lady knelt on the living room floor and wept prayers with our volunteers," said Anfuso.

Anyone interested in volunteering or assisting monetarily in the longterm Gulf Coast recovery initiative should contact Forward Edge International at 360-574-3343.

Forward Edge International coordinates volunteers and missions teams from around the northwest and across the nation. They provide immediate medical aid and longterm reconstruction of homes and churches following disasters. Since 1983 Forward Edge International has organized, equipped and sent approximately 800 volunteer teams and 9,000 volunteers to give aid in 33 countries.

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The Katrina Response Initiative
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